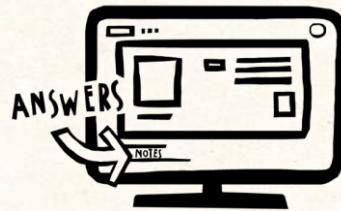


HOW TO USE - NOTES FOR TEACHERS

These resources from Historic Royal Palaces are multi-purpose.
They are ready for you to tweak and use in your lessons.



For the best experience,
download and open the
file in the PowerPoint
desktop app.



Answers are found
under the slide. Click
on the notes symbol at
the bottom of the screen.



Delete text and images
to make your own
worksheets.

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Reigned: 1714 - 1727

Lived: 1660 - 1727 | **Birthplace:** Hanover, Germany

GEORGE I

The first Georgian King

In 1701, **Parliament** ordered that British monarchs could not be **Catholic**. Not long after, Queen Anne died without an heir. Over 50 of Anne's relatives could have had a claim to the throne, but they were **Catholic**.

George I was a distant relative of Anne, and he was **Protestant**. He became King in 1714. In 1715, Anne's half-brother, James Stuart, attempted a **rebellion** to become king, but this failed.

- George visited Kensington Palace for the first time when he came to England in 1714.
- He brought 18 cooks to England with him.
- Spoke German and French but only a few words of English.
- Spent little time in England and made regular visits back to Hanover. Left the running of the country to his trusted **ministers**, including Britain's first **Prime Minister**.

Q: What objects in the portrait tell us that George I is a king?

Q: What evidence is there to suggest why George I was not a popular king?

- Divorced his wife so had no **Queen Consort**.
- Reportedly died of a stroke brought on by eating too many strawberries while travelling to Hanover.

When in England, George I stayed at Hampton Court Palace and at Kensington Palace. He made improvements including:

- a new kitchen and laundry at Hampton Court
- new **apartments** for the Prince and Princess of Wales
- rebuilding part of the old palace at Kensington to create new **State Apartments**.

"In private life he would have been called an honest blockhead"

Lady Mary Wortley Montagu writing about George I.

He was uncomfortable in social situations.



© National Portrait Gallery, London

Reigned: 1727 - 1760

Lived: 1683 - 1760 | **Birthplace:** Hanover, Germany

GEORGE II

The last British monarch to lead his troops into battle

George II moved into Kensington Palace when he became king. He spoke more English than his father but still spent a lot of time in Hanover. He relied on the **Prime Minister** to run the country.

In 1743, at the Battle of Dettingen in Germany, he was the last British **monarch** to fight alongside his soldiers. His claim to the throne was challenged by Prince Charles Edward Stuart, but the prince's army was defeated at the Battle of Culloden in 1746.

- Dull and self-important.
- Often lost his temper.
- Sometimes threw off his wig and kicked it round the room.
- Loved order and routine.
- Reportedly had his underwear numbered according to the day of the week.

Q: Can you explain the quote by Earl Chesterfield in your own words?

Q: How would you describe how George II is portrayed in his portrait?

Q: What evidence is there that might disagree with the idea of George II as a 'kind king'?

He and his wife, Queen Caroline, made Kensington Palace their main home in London. They also used Hampton Court Palace, particularly during the summer.

He often argued with his eldest son, Frederick, Prince of Wales. In 1737, he banished Frederick and Frederick's wife from court.

*"Little things...**afflicted** him more than great ones."*

The Earl of Chesterfield, writing about George II

Died while on the toilet at Kensington Palace.

Obsessed with facts and figures.



© National Portrait Gallery, London

Reigned: 1727 - 1737

Lived: 1683 – 1737 | **Birthplace:** Ansbach, Germany

QUEEN CAROLINE OF ANSBACH

An intelligent, sophisticated and forward-thinking queen

- Brought up at courts of Berlin and Dresden.
- Surrounded by artists, writers and **intellectuals**.
- Developed keen interest in art, history and science.

Caroline married the future George II in 1705. She moved with him to England in 1714. At this time, her title was Princess of Wales. As George's father had divorced his own wife, Caroline became the most senior woman at court. She became **Queen Consort** in 1727.

She brought glamour, intelligence and liveliness to court. Her husband discussed politics with her and trusted her judgement. He appointed her as **regent** on several occasions when he was away in Hanover.

She made Kensington Palace a glittering centre of court life. She invited **philosophers**, scientists, artists, writers and gardeners to her receptions.

Q: How is Caroline's clothing decorated in her portrait?

Q: What impression do these decorations create?

Q: Can you give one example of Caroline being 'forward-thinking'?

She also hired William Kent to transform the gardens at Kensington Palace. The old gardens were replaced with more fashionable, 'natural' ones.

Caroline and George II were very different but had a successful marriage. They had nine children and Caroline made sure they were well-educated and cared for. However, she had a poor relationship with eldest son, Frederick.

"Born to encourage the arts and the well-being of mankind."

Voltaire (a French **philosopher**) speaking of Queen Caroline

She collected miniature portraits.

Had all her children vaccinated against smallpox.



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Reigned: 1760 - 1820

Lived: 1738 - 1820 | **Birthplace:** Ansbach, Germany

GEORGE III

The third longest reigning monarch in British history

Unlike George I and George II, George III was born in England and spoke English as his first language. He was the first British **monarch** to celebrate a **Golden Jubilee**.

- Nicknamed 'Farmer George' because of he liked farming and had simple tastes.
- Became **heir** to the throne aged 12 when his father, Prince Frederick, died suddenly.
- Became king aged 22 when his grandfather, George II, died.

He was cultured and well-educated and a hard-working king who took an interest in **government**. His interests included **botany**, the arts and sciences, music and manufacturing.

He ruled over 13 North American colonies, and he was not keen for them to become independent.

Q: Can you describe the clothing George III is wearing in his portrait?

Q: What do you think George III's best qualities as king were?

Q: Can you give one example of George III being over-controlling? What was the result of this?

As a result, during his reign, the **American War of Independence** took place between 1776 -1783. As part of this George Washington's armies defeated the British and Great Britain recognised the independence of the United States.

- Devoted to his wife, Queen Charlotte.
- Loved their children but he strictly controlled them.
- This led to poor relationships with his children when they became adults.

He disliked Kensington Palace. Instead, he made Windsor Palace and Buckingham House his main homes.

He suffered periods of mental illness which became worse during stressful times. Eventually in 1811, he was declared unfit to rule. His eldest son, George IV was appointed **regent**.

He collected over
65,000 books.



Royal Collection Trust / © His Majesty King Charles III 2024

Reigned: 1761 - 1818

Lived: 1744 - 1818 | **Birthplace:** Mirow, Germany

QUEEN CHARLOTTE

An intelligent queen with a wide range of interests

Charlotte was born and brought up in the Palace of Mirow, now part of Germany. She spoke German, French and English and was sweet and good humoured.

- Married George III in 1761. She was 17 and he was 23.
- Both **crowned** later the same year.
- Gave birth to her first child, the future George IV, less than a year later.

In 1761, George III bought a new house for her called Buckingham House. It was renamed the Queen's House. 14 of their 15 children were born there. They enjoyed happy, relaxed family summers at Kew Palace before George became too unwell with mental illness.

- Played the **harpsichord** and very interested in music.
- Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart performed for her.

Q: What image of Queen Charlotte has the artist created in the portrait?

Q: What evidence is there in this biography that she was an intelligent woman?

- Keen amateur **botanist**.
- Took a great interest in the gardens at Kew Palace.
- Interested in books - her large library included books on **botany**, the theatre and literature.
- Scientifically minded, she surrounded herself with serious thinkers, including female writers.

Charlotte founded many orphanages. In 1809, she became the **patron** of The Queen's Hospital in London. She became her husband's guardian in 1811, when he was too ill to rule.

"I am of the opinion that if women had the same advantages as men in their education they might do as well." Queen Charlotte

Collected luxury objects including French porcelain and jewelled boxes.



Royal Collection Trust / © His Majesty King Charles III 2024

Reigned: 1820 - 1830

Lived: 1762 - 1830 | **Birthplace:** London

GEORGE IV

An extravagant monarch and the last Georgian King

George IV ruled as Prince **Regent** from 1811 while his father was unwell. He became king when his father died.

- Given his own house in London at the age of 18.
- Friends included artists, politicians and actresses.
- Secretly married a Roman **Catholic widow**, Mrs. Maria Fitzherbert.
- This marriage was considered **invalid** because George III had not given them permission.

George IV later officially married his cousin, Princess Caroline of Brunswick. However, they separated not long after their daughter, Princess Charlotte, was born.

- Spent large amounts of money.
- Collected furniture, textiles, books and paintings.
- Remodelled his home in Brighton into the Royal Pavilion.

Q: What image do you think George IV wanted to create in his portrait?

Q: What evidence is there in this biography that George was a 'vain and extravagant' king?

- Ordered Buckingham House to be rebuilt

- as a palace.

His daughter, Princess Charlotte, died in childbirth aged 21. He became very overweight due to eating and drinking too much. He suffered from health problems including **gout** and tried to disguise his large waist with tight fitting jackets and tight belts. Died at Windsor Castle without an **heir**.

"He is rather too fond of wine and women"
George IV, aged 17, writing about himself.

In later life, he wore a wig designed to look like dark, thick, curly hair.

Had a new crown made for his coronation. It had over 12,000 diamonds.



Royal Collection Trust / © His Majesty King Charles III 2024

Reigned: 1830 - 1837

Lived: 1765 - 1837 | **Birthplace:** London

WILLIAM IV

Britain's 'Sailor King'

William IV was the third son of King George III. He became king when his eldest brother, George IV, died without an **heir**. His other brother had also died without an **heir**.

- Joined the Royal **Navy** aged 13.
- Became Duke of Clarence in 1789.
- Lived with the famous actress Dorothea Jordan.
- They had 10 children known as the 'Fitzclarences'.
- Since they weren't married, their children would not be able to become monarchs themselves.

After Princess Charlotte died, William became next in line to the throne. He married Princess Adelaide of Saxe-Meningen, hoping they would have children and he would have an **heir**. They had two daughters who both died in childhood.

Whilst he was king, the **Great Reform Act** was passed in 1832.

Q: How far do you think William's Coronation Portrait reflects his personality and tastes?

Q: What does the quote tell you about William's understanding of the role of the monarch?

This gave more men the right to vote in elections. In 1833, Britain **abolished** slavery in most of their overseas **colonies**.

- Had plain tastes.
- Interested in naval and military affairs.
- Liked Windsor Castle and completed building work there.

"I have my view of things, and I tell them to my ministers. If they do not adopt them, I cannot help it. I have done my duty."

William IV

Hated pomp and ceremony and didn't want to have a Coronation.



Royal Collection Trust / © His Majesty King Charles III 2024

Reigned: 1837 - 1901

Lived: 1819 - 1901 | **Birthplace:** London

VICTORIA

A queen who reigned for 63 years

Victoria's father died suddenly 8 months after she was born. Her mother relied on John Conroy who had been her husband's assistant. Conroy devised the '**Kensington System**' which kept Victoria alone and under close watch.

- 5th in line to the throne when she was born in Kensington Palace.
- Due to deaths in the family, she became queen when she was 18 years old.
- She moved into Buckingham Palace.
- People were delighted to have a new young queen.
- Married her German cousin, Prince Albert, in 1840.
- Had nine children.
- Spent holidays at Osborne House on the Isle of Wight.

Albert died suddenly in 1861 and Victoria was grief stricken.

Q: Describe how Victoria is portrayed in her Coronation portrait.

Q: What impression of her do you think this creates?

Q: What do you think Queen Victoria is most remembered for today?

She wore black **mourning** clothes for the rest of her life and withdrew from public for many years.

Victoria became **Empress** of India in 1876 but never visited. Many changes took place during Victoria's time as queen:

- the invention of postage stamps
- the development of a railway network
- the **industrialisation** of Britain
- the invention of the telephone.

She celebrated her **Golden Jubilee** in 1887 and **Diamond Jubilee** in 1897.

As a princess, she was not allowed to walk downstairs without holding someone's hand.

Kept a diary from age 13 to a few days before she died at 81.

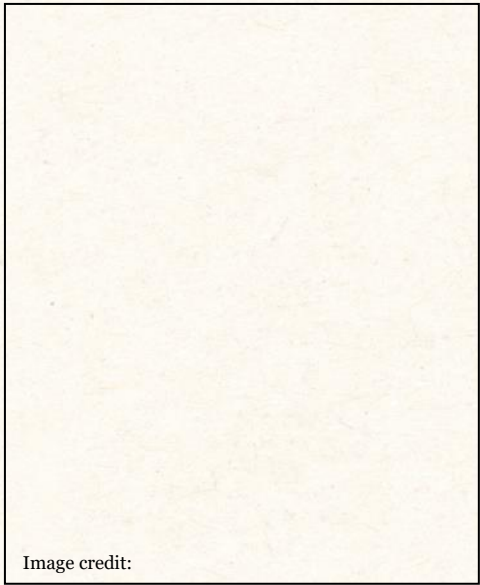
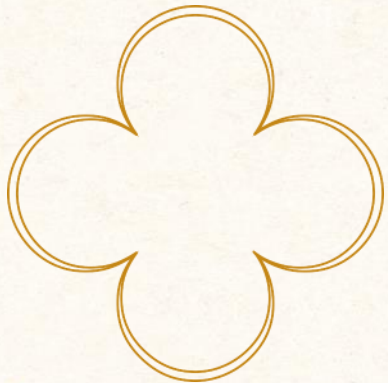
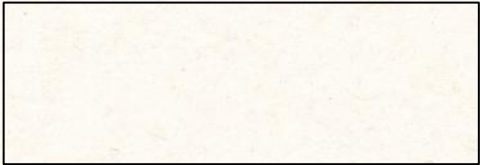
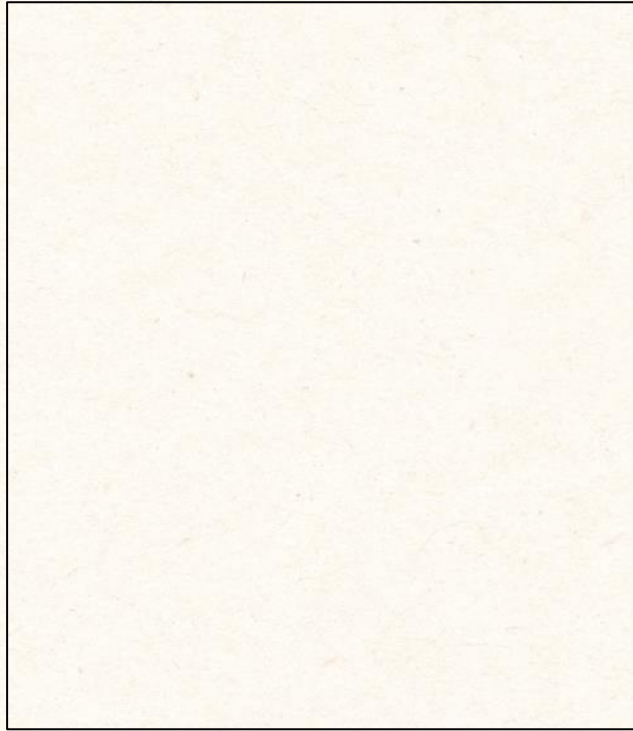


Image credit:

Lived: _____
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Q:

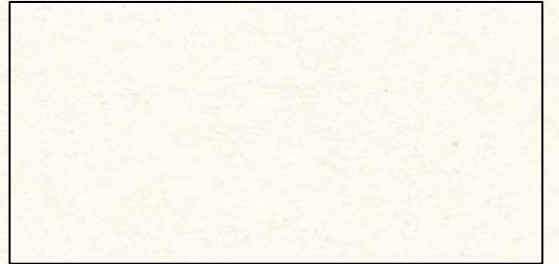
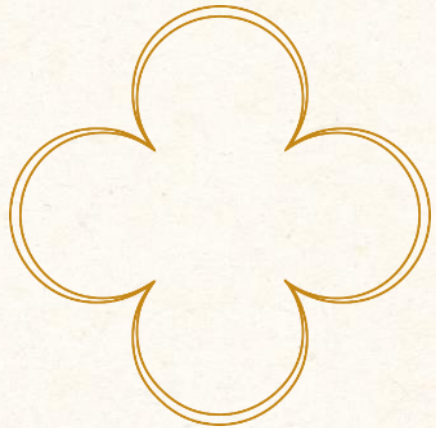


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Q:



VOCABULARY LIST



abolish | officially end something

afflicted | caused pain or trouble by

American War of Independence | military campaign by the American colonies to win their independence from Great Britain

apartment | set of rooms for living in

botany | the scientific study of plants

botanist | someone who studies plants

Catholic | member of the Roman Catholic Church. A type of Christianity that follows the teachings of the Pope

colony | a group of people from one country who build a settlement in another land; or a country or area under the control of another country

crowned | when a crown is placed on the head of someone during a ceremony to recognise them officially as monarch

Diamond Jubilee | celebrations marking the 60th anniversary of an event, such as someone becoming king or queen

Elector | German prince who had the right to vote in elections to choose the Emperor

empire | large group of countries or regions that are controlled by one ruler or government

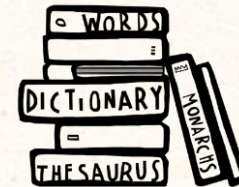
empress | woman who rules over an empire

Georgian | the time from 1714 to 1830 when Britain and Ireland were ruled by George I-George IV

Golden Jubilee | celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of an event, such as someone becoming king or queen

gout | disease that causes severe pain and swelling, usually of the big toe

VOCABULARY LIST



government | group of people that have the authority to rule a country

Great Reform Act | law passed by Parliament in 1832: middle class men could now vote, but not women or other men

harpichord | musical instrument similar to a piano

heir | person who will become the next king or queen

industrialisation | when manufacturing and other industries are introduced on a large scale

intellectual | someone who is well educated and interested in studying

invalid | not legal

Kensington System | set of rules devised to keep Victoria under strict control at Kensington Palace as a child

military | word used in connection with an armed force such as soldiers

minister | someone with a lot of power and responsibility in government

monarch | ruler of a kingdom or empire, such as a king or queen

monarchy | system of government with a king or queen as its head

mourning | a sign of the deep sadness and loss felt when someone dies (such as wearing black clothes)

navy | ships built and maintained to defend a country

Queen Consort | the wife of a reigning king

VOCABULARY LIST

Parliament | the group of people elected to make and change laws in a country; in the past only very rich and powerful people were Members of Parliament

patron | someone who gives financial or other support to a person or organisation

philosopher | someone who studies human life and the world, for example how we think and what we value

Prime Minister | the leader of the government

Protestant | a type of Christianity that believes people do not need officials (such as the Pope or Bishops) to communicate with God

rebellion | a fight by a large group of people against the government or ruler; or an action against rules and accepted ways of behaving

regent | person who rules when the king or queen is unable to

smallpox | serious and often deadly infectious disease in the past

State Apartments | grand public rooms where official visitors are hosted

widow | woman whose husband has died

